SELF-SCALING NETWORK

Abstract of the Invention

According to an embodiment of the present invention, a method is provided for automatic aggregation of a plurality of virtual paths emanating from a first switch. The

5   method includes automatically discovering and identifying portions of the virtual paths that run parallel to one another, e.g., through the same set of switches up to a common terminating switch at which the paths diverge or terminate, as a candidate path set for aggregation, constructing a tunnel path along this set of paths all the way between the first switch and the terminating switch, and aggregating the parallel portions identified by

10   the path set into the tunnel.